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Governors State University Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes - April 18, 2008

Board of Trustees

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Governors State University

**Board of Trustees Meeting, April 18, 2008
Minutes**

The Board of Trustees meeting was held on Friday, April 18, 2008, in the William D. McGee Hall of Honors at Governors State University.

Call to Order and Roll Call

Chair Samuels called the meeting to order at 10:50 a.m. Roll call was taken, and the following Trustees were present: Bruce Friefeld, Kristi DeLaurentiis, Jack Beaupre, Lorine Samuels, Kathleen Field Orr, and Lois Mayer. Student Trustee Elizabeth Green was absent.

Also present were: Elaine Maimon, Jane Hudak, Gebe Ejigu, Joan Vaughan, Alexis Kennedy, Colleen Rock, Paul Blobaum, Kathy Miller, and Rosa Moran.

Approval of Minutes

Chair Samuels requested a motion for the approval of the minutes of the February 15, 2008 Board meeting. Friefeld moved that the minutes be approved. Mayer seconded the motion. The minutes were approved by unanimous voice vote.

Adoption of the Agenda

Chair Samuels requested a motion to adopt the agenda. Friefeld moved to adopt the agenda. Mayer seconded the motion. Orr moved that the agenda be amended to remove *Agenda Item 8. Committee Reports* and that the action items listed under the committee reports constitute the consent agenda. Beaupre seconded the motion. The Trustees took a five minute recess to clarify the issues. The Trustees reconvened. It was agreed the committee action items should constitute the consent agenda. The items on the consent agenda will only be discussed if they are removed from the consent agenda. Removal of an item from the consent agenda can be requested by any one Trustee. It was recommended that a listing of consent agenda items be prepared before each Board meeting. The motion to amend the agenda was approved by unanimous voice vote. Friefeld revised the original motion to adopt the "agenda as amended." The motion to adopt the agenda as amended was approved by unanimous voice vote.

Work Study Session Strategic Planning

Ejigu introduced John Stoll and Karen D'Arcy, co-chairs of the Planning and Budget Advisory Council (PBAC) Strategic Planning Committee. Stoll gave a strategic planning update. He summarized what actions have taken place thus far and informed the Trustees of next steps. The Trustees commented on the proposal. The strategic planning committee will take the Trustees' input to refine the draft plan. The draft will be reviewed at a charette, which is scheduled for May 9, 2008, 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. and May 12, 13, and 14, 2008, noon to 8:00 p.m. in the cafeteria annex. An update on the strategic plan will be presented again at the June Board of Trustees meeting. In response to a question by the Trustees, Stoll stated that it is his understanding that if there is no change in the scope of the mission of GSU, the document does not have to be approved by the Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE).

Report on State of Readiness for Emergency Response

Ejigu gave a presentation on GSU's readiness for emergency response. The Emergency Response Team (ERT) was established in December 2007. The ERT members are Dr. Sherilyn Poole, Chief Student Affairs Officer; Dr. Gary Lyon, Chair of the Campus Safety Committee; Lt. Debra Boyd, Chief Public Safety Officer; Eric Matanyi, Chief Public Affairs Officer; Susan Rakstang, Chief Facilities Officer; and Pete Mizera, Chief Information Technology Officer. The ERT is fully empowered to take action in situations when consultation with the president and vice presidents is not possible. An Emergency Operations Center (EOC) has been identified and fully equipped to allow the ERT to direct emergency operations and communicate with internal and external emergency operations. If the Trustees are interested, they can have a tour of the EOC after the Board meeting or can arrange to have a tour at another time. Ejigu distributed a copy of an Emergency Procedures poster, which will be posted throughout the University. A group of GSU volunteers will be trained as sector leaders to help with emergency procedures. The ERT has invited the fire and police chiefs from local communities and others to a breakfast on May 16 to learn about GSU's plan of operations.

The Board took a lunch break at 12:15 p.m. The business meeting resumed at 1:05 p.m.

Reports

Chair's Report: Chair Samuels welcomed Dr. Jane Rhoades Hudak to her first Board meeting as Provost. It is the second Board meeting of the calendar year, but the seventh since Chair Samuels took office. Conventional wisdom holds that time moves faster when one is engaged and busy. What the last twelve months have proven to Chair Samuels is that time indeed flies when one is busy—especially when one is having fun at the same time. A lot has happened at the University during the last year, and it was one of the most productive years since Chair Samuels began serving on the Board. As a result of the deferred maintenance initiative the Board adopted in 2007, a number of long-overdue deferred maintenance and building renewal projects are underway. The decision to debt-finance these projects through a new student fee was tough and gut-wrenching—but appropriate and necessary. Given the long failure of state government to fund the repair and maintenance needs of its state universities, it was necessary that bold action be taken to stop the further deterioration of GSU's buildings and physical infrastructure. Failure to do so would have been an abjuration of the Board's fiduciary duty, a duty that the Trustees take very seriously. The Budget and Finance Committee, chaired by Beaupre, has served well in this connection. The decisions that were made and the actions that were taken over the last several months, coupled with resolutions that will be considered at this meeting, will address most of the high priority deficiencies in the buildings and physical infrastructure. The initiatives and issues related to the campus facilities require close and continuing scrutiny and vigilant monitoring. That is why the Board exercised the wisdom of appointing a new committee: the Facilities Committee, chaired by Trustee Orr. That committee held its first meeting, which Chair Samuels attended. The committee is off to a good start, thanks in large part to Orr's extraordinary interest in the committee's charge and responsibilities.

The Board started fine tuning its meeting structure last September. Based on experiences since then, Chair Samuels believes it is important that the Board move to a "committee of the whole" structure. The Board has been experimenting with that structure and it appears to serve the Board well. The Board will maintain flexibility and make necessary adjustments as it moves forward.

Strategic planning has been another important area of engagement by the Board over the last several months. Following the guidance the Board provided to President Maimon during its planning retreat last August, the University began broad-based strategic planning. The process started with President

Maimon's appointment of a Strategic Planning Steering Committee chaired by Dean John Stoll and Professor Karen D'Arcy. Last November, the Board held a special meeting to launch the strategic planning process. At that meeting, facilitated by experts from the University of Wisconsin system, participants learned about best practices in strategic planning, assessed past and analyzed current conditions and environment, and spent time collectively envisioning the University's future. The planning process has been broad-based and has involved intensive discussions with over 20 stakeholder focus groups, both internal and external—including faculty, staff, students, alumni and foundation leaders, and community college and K-12 partners. The draft will be further refined and presented to the Board at the June meeting. Setting the University's strategic direction and priorities is one of the Board's fundamental roles. The Board's primary focus of engagement is setting strategic goals and making policy-level decisions. The administration is then held accountable for progress towards the goals and priorities that are set. Because of the centrality of strategic goal setting to the roles and responsibilities as a Board, Chair Samuels recommended that the Board dedicate a significant portion of the forthcoming annual planning retreat in August to reviewing and finalizing the strategic plan. As such, the Board will not rush to adopt the plan at the June meeting. Rather, the Board will simply receive a final report and a revised draft. A final draft will be presented to the Board for extensive consideration at the August Retreat, a session that will be facilitated by an outside, experienced individual.

At the last Board meeting the Trustees approved resolutions on tuition and fee increases for the next academic year. Setting tuition and fees is another major responsibility of the Board. Because of the Board's commitment to keeping GSU one of the most accessible and affordable institutions among the state's public universities, the Board has been particularly attentive and sensitive to decisions that involve material increases in tuition and fees. The deliberations at the last meeting made it abundantly clear that there is a need to balance this commitment with the commitment to offer high quality education and to correct the deteriorating conditions of the campus facilities. Providing high quality education and educational experience on a sustainable basis requires resources. GSU's current support from the state is less than it was six years ago and yet the University awarded about 34% more degrees in 2007 than six years ago. The decisions made at the last meeting were made out of necessity—and out of the Board's continuing commitment to ensure that quality is maintained.

On March 13, Chair Samuels joined President Maimon at the House Higher Education Appropriations Committee hearings and testified on behalf of the Board. The essence of her testimony was to plead with the legislators to permanently add to GSU's base the \$1.8 million in supplemental appropriations that were zeroed out by the Governor in his Executive Budget submission. This would raise overall FY09 state appropriations for GSU to \$30 million. During the hearing and in conversations with legislators, Chair Samuels was pleasantly surprised by the almost apologetic posture that legislators were exhibiting. They appeared to recognize that the state has been severely underfunding its public universities and understood why universities have to keep increasing tuition and fees. Chair Samuels thanked Trustee DeLaurentiis for also representing the Board at the Senate hearing.

On March 31, the Chair met with the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) Team, which was conducting a regional accreditation focus visit to assess GSU's programmatic and institutional capacity to offer the Doctorate in Nursing program. The team met with the Chair to gather evidence of the Board's support for the program. President Maimon indicated that the exit conference with the team was positive and that there were no areas of concern identified.

Chair Samuels addressed and participated in the pinning ceremony of the Winter 2008 graduating class of the Physical Therapy program. Participation in such activities is gratifying and informative. She met graduates and their families individually. At events like this, one gets the full meaning and significance of Trusteeship and the satisfaction that comes with it.

Overall, it has been a very productive year. A new president was appointed, and in just nine months—thanks to the President’s leadership—GSU is gaining momentum on several fronts. The GSU Foundation is taking a new direction. The *GSU Promise* is an exciting development. The President proposed University-wide initiatives in the *Seven Imperatives*, which provide real direction for GSU and serve as important guidelines for the strategic planning process. GSU also made progress on new doctoral programs. Chair Samuels expressed her sincere thanks and appreciation to the Trustees. She is grateful for their support and encouragement, their friendship, their dedication and hard work on behalf of the students, and their commitment to GSU’s mission and to GSU’s future. It was a privilege for her to serve as Chair over the past year.

President's Report: President Maimon reflected that she has been at GSU for nine months. During the first year of a president’s tenure, it is important to build a superb team at the vice presidential level. The President formally introduced Dr. Jane Rhoades Hudak, who is the second-in-command and Provost. Hudak was the Dean of Arts and Sciences at Georgia Southern University before accepting the position at GSU. She was a very sought after candidate for the whole round of provosts’ choices that various universities were making. At the last Board meeting, the President introduced Joan Vaughan, Vice President for Advancement. The Cabinet is diverse and excellent. The deans’ searches are yielding first-rate candidates. Four candidates for the College of Business and Public Administration (CBPA) Dean position will be at GSU within a week for on-campus interviews. There are at least two excellent candidates for the College of Education (COE) Dean position, and they should be on campus for interviews in May.

GSU received high marks from accreditation visits. The Communication Disorders (CDIS) program received eight years reaccreditation. The HLC visit team for the Doctorate in Nursing recommended approval for the program, but GSU has not received the final report yet. Congratulations to Dean Samson and her faculty and staff in the College of Health Professions. During the visit, a significant issue was raised. One team member stated that it is the norm to receive a blanket approval for certain categories of new doctoral programs. GSU is ready for a blanket approval as it pertains to the professional practice doctorates. GSU now has three and is looking forward to the leadership doctorate and other practice doctorates. GSU will not bring forth any Ph.D. proposals soon; however, GSU can be the model in professional practice doctorates. The team will recommend that GSU receive a blanket approval for the practice professional doctorate.

It is reassuring to hear members of the General Assembly acknowledge that universities had no choice but to raise tuition and fees. Vaughan and the President have been visiting one-on-one with a number of legislators and all express regret over the inadequate support of higher education over the last five years. All public universities are on record with projected FY09 increases in tuition and fees. GSU is still the lowest in tuition and fees, even with the increases that were approved in February. Even with broad-based General Assembly support—most of the legislators understand the importance of higher education and higher education as an economic driver—the budget for FY09 does not look good. There are issues with the state finances, including a \$750,000 FY08 shortfall. The operating budget does not look good, even with the best case scenario. The tuition and fees increases will keep GSU going in the right direction. Maybe there will be a capital budget. Hudak and Ejigu were the

GSU representatives at the *Poshard/Hastert Think Tank*. They engaged in dialogue with Filan and others. The GSU administration remains focused on the E/F wing renovations (about \$21.5 million).

Enrollment is on track to have a record year in student credit hours (SCH). Strategic financial planning is essential if GSU intends to serve more students taking more courses during challenging budget times. Strategic investments will be guided by strategic planning. Training will be provided for deans and other unit heads in terms of their understanding of university budgeting and their budget presentations to the Planning and Budget Advisory Council (PBAC). The administration is requesting that there be a real analysis of budget priorities. The President thanked Ejigu and his team for the prudent and creative approaches to financial planning. The Board and the University are very well served by Ejigu's leadership of the financial team. The GSU Foundation is getting on track and building a 21st century relationship-based philanthropy. There will be a report from the Foundation Board Chair, Bill Sanders, at the June Board meeting. Chair Samuels and the President attended an Association of Governing Boards (AGB) seminar on university philanthropy. A key goal is to build relationships between potential benefactors and GSU. The president is the chief fundraiser, but there also needs to be active involvement in all of the GSU community in that endeavor. Developing a positive image of GSU is important: the new GSU corner signs will help with that and will be used for marketing and advertising. President Maimon will speak at the commencement ceremonies for Prairie State College and Joliet Junior College. The President thanked everyone for continuing the positive momentum.

Faculty Senate President's Report: Blobaum stated that the University Library is engaged in scanning and digitizing archived documents. The Faculty Senate committees will meet with the Graduate Studies Committee, under the leadership of the Provost's Office, to discuss and envision shared governance in relationship to graduate and undergraduate education. Earlier this trimester, additional faculty members were appointed to the Graduate Studies Committee, and a liaison was appointed with the Faculty Senate. These discussions are likely to inform a review of the Faculty Senate bylaws, which is likely to begin in the new academic year this fall.

On behalf of the faculty, Blobaum welcomed Provost Hudak.

Blobaum attended the Council of Illinois University Senates meeting at ISU in Normal on April 4. This council has met twice a year since 2001. Among the topics discussed were state support for universities, campus safety and prevention policies, and the role of the faculty in violence prevention and emergency response. The web site is <http://www.ilstu.edu/orgs/cius/cius/cius.shtml> .

The Governor's Task Force on Campus Safety released its report this week. The executive summary and full report is over 200 pages and is posted on the State of Illinois web page. Upon a brief review, Blobaum found many of the recommendations to be under discussion or implementation at GSU. Blobaum applauded the President for keeping the commitment she made that campus safety and security would be a top priority during the early days of her leadership. He also applauded Dr. Ejigu and members of the Emergency Response Team for doing what they said they would do to make the campus as safe as possible.

Student Senate President's Report: Moran reported that the Student Senate sponsored two *Notes at Noon* events: one in February, with attendance of 123, and one in March, with

attendance of approximately 180. The last one provided an opportunity to meet new Senators and executive board members.

The Student Senate will sponsor an Appreciation Dinner to honor outgoing Senators and executive board members. The President, the Executive Vice President/Chief of Staff, the Provost, and the Associate VP/Dean have been invited to this special event. Moran's regular column in the student newspaper expressed recognition of some Senators and other students.

Moran enjoyed participating in the Board meetings and working with the administration while she was President of the Student Senate. She thanked the President and Executive Vice President for helping to make her experience meaningful and beneficial. She welcomed Provost Hudak. A new Senate President was elected; his name is Adam Taylor.

Civil Service Senate President's Report: Miller reported that the Civil Service Senate revised its by-laws. The document has been renamed and is now called, *The Civil Service Senate Constitution and By-Laws*. The Senate defined its mission and created, deleted, and adjusted its committees to align with the Board regulations and PBAC. The document was reviewed and approved by President Maimon, Ejigu, Faculty Senate President Blobaum and legal counsel Alexis Kennedy. The finished document was distributed to the Civil Service Senate. With the approval of this document Pulchratia Kinney-Smith of HR will be able to complete the *GSU Civil Service Employee Handbook*. The handbook is a document that is long past due, and the Senate is happy to be a part of the update process.

The 3rd Annual GSU Fly-In, the paper airplane contest, was very well attended. In March on St. Patrick's Day, the Senate sponsored the first ever Limerick Contest. The Senate invited everyone at GSU to attend and had participants from every constituency. These events are good for the Senate, good for civil service scholarship and good for university morale. Miller thanked the public affairs committee for its work on these successful events.

At the last Board meeting, the Senate supported the promotion of Sgt. Debra Boyd to Chief of DPS. This left a vacancy for the GSU EAC (State of Illinois Employee Advisory Council) representative which Boyd served as. Kinney-Smith began the process for an election to replace Boyd. One person, Maureen Bendoraitis, decided to run for this position and submitted a completed nomination form with the required number of signatures. Because she was unopposed an election was not needed. The Senate supports Bendoraitis and welcomes her as an ex-officio non-voting member of the Senate and looks forward to her quarterly reports. The Senate will not be printing a newsletter in the future. The print shop adjusted prices and the printing costs rose from \$90.00 to \$396.00. The Senate will create a blog instead.

Miller enjoyed working with Moran during her presidency and wished her well in all of her future endeavors.

Public Comment Period

Consistent with Public Act 91-0715 and reasonable constraints determined by the Board of Trustees, at each regular or special meeting of the Board or its committees that is open to the public, members of the public may request a brief time on the approved agenda of the meeting to address the Board on

relevant matters within its jurisdiction. Committees of the Board review University proposals for action and make adjustments and endorsements as appropriate for further consideration by the full Board. Public comments are generally most useful at meetings of Board committees, where proposals are first considered and the time of interaction is most feasible. Bill Craig, on behalf of Marsha Katz, University Professionals of Illinois (UPI) Chapter president, requested to speak.

Craig reported that the UPI sponsored a GSU contingency to the higher education rally last week. The participation was less than hoped for because of GSU final exam dates. However, GSU made a good impression. The faculty and students met with representatives and the talks went well. Other universities sent contingents that included administrators. The UPI is beginning to plan for next academic year. Plans include hosting a portfolio workshop and a welcome back reception.

Although a student, Jackie Johnson, requested to speak, she was not in attendance and did not submit a written report.

Adoption of Consent Agenda

Chair Samuels stated that the committees have met and deliberated and the following resolutions will be placed on the consent agenda: *08-28, 08-29, 08-30, 08-31, 08-32, 08-33, 08-35, and 08-37*. DeLaurentiis requested that *Resolutions 08-29 and 08-37* be removed from the consent agenda.

Approval of Action Items on the Consent Agenda

Resolution 08-28: Approval of Contract Award for the Replacement and Upgrade of the Motor Control Center: Upon the recommendation of the President and the Facilities Committee of the Board of Trustees, the Governors State University Board of Trustees approves the award of a purchase order and contract to Kelso Burnett of Rolling Meadows, IL, in the amount of \$2,867,005 for the replacement and upgrade of the Motor Control Center as specified in the bidding documents. With the standard 10% contingency, this action authorizes the University to spend up to \$3,153,705 on this project.

Resolution 08-30: Approval of Contract Award for the Upgrade and Installation of Water and Hydronic Systems: Upon the recommendation of the President and the Facilities Committee of the Board of Trustees, the Governors State University Board of Trustees approves the award of a purchase order and contract to Mechanical Inc. of Hillside, IL, in the amount of \$739,792 for the upgrade and installation of water and hydronic systems as specified in the bidding documents. With the standard 10% contingency, this action authorizes the University to spend up to \$813,772 on this project.

Resolution 08-31: Approval of DCFS Subcontract—Juvenile Protective Association (JPA): Upon the recommendation of the President, and the review and concurrence of the Budget and Finance Committee of the Board of Trustees, the Governors State University Board of Trustees approves an increase in the purchase order and contract with Juvenile Protective Association (JPA), Chicago, IL, in an amount not to exceed \$254,000 for training as required under the GSU-DCFS contract. With the prior resolution and this additional increase, the University's authority to spend is not to exceed the total of \$628,870 on this contract.

Resolution 08-32: Authorizing Financing of Capital Improvement Projects: The Governors State University Board of Trustees resolved that the Chairman, the Treasurer and the Secretary of the Board and the members, officers, agents and employees of the Board are authorized and directed to

do all such acts and to execute all such documents as may be necessary to carry out and comply with the provisions of the resolution and with the actions of the members, officers, agents, and employees of the Board which are in conformity with the intent and purposes of the resolution, whether heretofore or hereafter taken or done, which actions shall be and are ratified, confirmed, and approved. [Complete, exact wording of Resolution 08-32 is included in the April 18 Board agenda packet.]

Resolution 08-33: Award of Rank and Tenure to Dr. Jane Rhoades Hudak: Upon the recommendation of the Faculty and Division Chair in the Division of Liberal Arts, the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, Associate Provost Woodard and President Maimon, and with the review and concurrence of the Human Resources Committee of the Board of Trustees, the Governors State University Board of Trustees appoints the Provost, Dr. Jane Rhoades Hudak, as a Professor of Art with tenure in the Division of Liberal Arts, College of Arts and Sciences, effective April 18, 2008.

Resolution 08-35: Dr. Richard Finkley Administrative Leave: Upon the recommendation of the President, and with the review and concurrence of the Human Resources Committee of the Board of Trustees, the Governors State University Board of Trustees approves a six-month administrative leave at full pay for Dr. Richard Finkley, beginning September 1, 2008 and ending February 28, 2009, in accordance with Board Regulations Section II, Subsection B.6.j.(1).

Beaupre moved to approve the consent agenda. Field Orr seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous voice vote.

Approval of Other Action Items

Resolution 08-29: Approval of Contract Award for the Upgrade and Installation of Interior Lighting Controls: Upon the recommendation of the President and the Facilities Committee of the Board of Trustees, the Governors State University Board of Trustees approves the award of a purchase order and contract to Ruder Electric of Kankakee, IL, in the amount of \$239,200 for the upgrade and installation of interior lighting controls as specified in the bidding documents. With the standard 10% contingency, this action authorizes the University to spend up to \$263,120 on this project.

DeLaurentiis noted that in the documents provided to the Budget and Finance Committee last month, there was a schedule of projects funded through the deferred maintenance initiative, with anticipated costs. The interior lighting control sensors cost was different from that presented today. Ejigu stated that in the original plan there were cost estimates for various projects. Some of those estimates are two years old now. There will always be variation between the cost projections in the original plan and the actual bids. In response to a question from DeLaurentiis, Rakstang stated that the bid includes lighting controls and motion sensors only—no light fixtures. There will be some work done in classrooms and corridors, but primarily the work will be done in the control center. It will be a new system that will allow facilities to put certain areas on the control center. Whenever Facilities does a project, motion sensors are added. DeLaurentiis stated that there is a new portfolio energy efficiency law that was signed in August 2007. The Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity has a public institution program to create efficiencies that they will start funding in June 2008—there may be a potential revenue source as a result of that.

DeLaurentiis moved to approve Resolution 08-29. Orr seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous voice vote.

Resolution 08-37: Approval of Conceptual Site Plan: Upon the recommendation of the President and the Facilities Committee of the Board of Trustees, the Governors State University Board of Trustees approves the Conceptual Site Plan to serve as a guide in developing a campus land use master plan. (The Conceptual Site Plan was included in the April 18 Board agenda packet under Facilities Committee.)

DeLaurentiis noted that there are no written tenets about sustainability in the site plan. Since GSU has taken the climate pledge and has a commitment to beautiful facilities and environmental biology programs, she recommended that it be included. Ejigu agreed that this planning process should identify environmental sustainability issues. Maimon agreed that since this will be a public document, it should explicitly show GSU's commitment to the environment. In response to a question from DeLaurentiis, Ejigu stated that the plan is just a conceptual plan. Once the administration gets concurrence of the Board, the campus facilities planning team will develop a physical master plan. Whatever is on the conceptual site plan is not an endorsement from the Board to do specific projects. The plan is to guide GSU in the future. The plan should be reviewed at least every five years so developments are reflected. One example would be student housing: the fact that a potential site is designated for student housing does not in any way authorize the administration to proceed with housing. It means only that if and when the Board authorizes the development of student housing, this is the location where it is proposed. The purpose of the plan is to guide the orderly development of the land. Rakstang stated that the deliverable will be a final land use plan including an executive summary, appendices, best practices about storm water management, etc. She added that civil engineers, not architects, developed the site plan; any plans for green buildings would be prepared by architects. DeLaurentiis requested that if plans progress for a third access road that the Board be informed. Ejigu confirmed that under no circumstances will the conceptual plan be used as final authority. Individual projects will come to the Board through the Facilities Committee.

DeLaurentiis moved to approve Resolution 08-37. Orr seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous voice vote.

Executive Session

Chair Samuels requested a motion to move into Executive Session. Orr moved that the Board convene in Executive Session, as permitted under the Open Meetings Act, to consider and discuss litigation matters and personnel. DeLaurentiis seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous roll call vote. The general public was asked to leave the room, and the Trustees went into Executive Session at 2:25 p.m.

The Executive Session adjourned at 3:05 p.m. The general public was invited to return to the meeting. Chair Samuels stated that the Board met in Executive Session to discuss litigation matters and personnel. No final action was taken.

Other Business

Resolution 08-32: Authorizing Financing of Capital Improvement Projects: Chair Samuels was informed that the Bond Council requested a roll call vote be taken for Resolution 08-32, which was on the consent agenda. Orr moved to approve Resolution 08-32 by roll call vote. Beaupre seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous roll call vote.

Resolution 08-34: Appointment of Board Committee Chairs and Membership: Upon the recommendation of the Chair of the Board of Trustees, the Governors State University Board of Trustees approves the appointment of Trustees to the following committees, for the period April 2008 to April 2009 or such time as they may later establish. The Committees shall be chaired by the following Trustees: Academic Affairs Committee, Lois Mayer; Facilities Committee, Kathleen Filed Orr; Finance and Budget Committee, Jack Beaupre; Human Resources Committee, Kristi DeLaurentiis; and Committee on Trusteeship, Governance & Nominations, Bruce Friefeld. In addition to the chairs, all trustees will serve as members of each Board committee. The Chair of the Board of Trustees is an ex officio voting member of all Board committees pursuant to Section 7.D. of the Bylaws of the Governors State University Board of Trustees. Friefeld moved to approve Resolution 08-34. Beaupre seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous roll call vote.

Resolution 08-36: Seyfarth Shaw LLP Contract: Whereas, the Governors State University Board of Trustees ["Board"] adopted Resolution 07-41, which authorized a contract for legal services by Seyfarth Shaw, and whereas, the legal services of Seyfarth Shaw are completed, and whereas, the legal costs for the services provided by Seyfarth Shaw are \$270,000, now therefore, be it resolved; the Governors State University Board of Trustees amends Resolution 07-41 to allow the payment of legal fees not to exceed \$270,000 to Seyfarth Shaw LLP. Orr moved to approve Resolution 08-36. Mayer seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous voice vote.

Election of Officers:

Friefeld moved to nominate the following slate of officers: Samuels, Chair; Beaupre, Vice Chair; and DeLaurentiis, Secretary. Orr seconded the motion. There being no further nominations, Friefeld moved to close nominations. Mayer seconded the motion. The motion to close nominations was approved by unanimous voice vote. Kennedy distributed ballots to vote on the nominations. The nominations were approved by unanimous ballot vote.

Comments by Trustees

Chair Samuels asked that the Trustees who attended the AGB Conference give a brief report. Orr asked that the Chair of the Academic Affairs Committee add an agenda item, "peer and aspirant institutions," for discussion at the next meeting. Maimon suggested that the discussion wait until after she receives the list of peer institutions from the National Center for Higher Education Management Systems (NCHEMS). Field Orr recommended that there be a brief discussion at the next Academic Affairs Committee meeting, and another discussion after the list is received. DeLaurentiis stated that keeping a university affordable and accessible does not just mean keeping tuition rates low, but also means reducing the time needed to graduate. A lot of good ideas were shared about doing more with less. Beaupre found it very stimulating to renew personal focus on what the role of a trustee is and why he and others serve on the Board. There was a good deal of discussion about the big picture and the kind of issues that higher education faces. He agreed that it is particularly important that the discussion about peer institutions takes place. There was a good deal of discussion about peer institutions in the finance and budget sessions. It is worthwhile for all Trustees to attend the conference every year. Samuels added that there was a focus on strong leadership and building in-depth leadership within the academy. She encouraged her fellow trustees to use the trustee office to catalog information to share with other trustees and to archive historical documents. Friefeld congratulated Samuels on completing her first year as the Chair of the Board of Trustees and on her election to another term.

Adjournment

Chair Samuels requested a motion to adjourn. Friefeld moved that the meeting be adjourned. Mayer seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Colleen Rock